

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: THE MIDDLE EAST

1. A FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL IN KINSHASA DAILY ELIMA AUGUST 15 APPRAISES THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS IN NEXT MONTH'S CAMP DAVID SUMMIT ON THE MIDDLE EAST. JOURNALIST SUMBULA GIWANGWA CALLS SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE'S RECENT MIDDLE EAST TRIP A "WELL ACCOMPLISHED MISSION" BECAUSE " IT HAS REKINDLED HOPES FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE DEADLOCKED MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS". MR. SUMBULA SAYS THE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS ARE GOOD BECAUSE THIS TIME THE U.S. WILL ACT AS A FULL "PARTNER" TO THE TALKS AND NOT SIMPLY A GO-BETWEEN.

2. MR. SUMBULA NOTES, HOWEVER, "THAT OBSERVERS DO NOT EXPECT ANYTHING POSITIVE TO COME OUT OF THE CAMP DAVID TALKS BECAUSE SADAT AND BEGIN'S POSITIONS ARE TOO FAR APART. " COMMENTARY SAYS THAT "SINCE HIS HISTORIC TRIP TO JERUSALEM, PRESIDENT SADAT HAS ALWAYS SOUGHT TO ACHIEVE A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE, WHILE PRIME MINISTER BEGIN HAS BEEN AIMING FOR A PEACE SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD ENABLE HIM TO ANNEX OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS". PRESIDENT CARTER WHO HAS AVOIDED PUTTING DIRECT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL", CONTINUES JOURNALIST SUMBULA, " WILL NOW, IN HIS CAPACITY AS A FULL PARTNEER IN THE TALKS, BE OBLIGED TO DO SO".
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3. COMMENTARY ENDS BY INDICATING THAT "IF PRESIDENT CARTER SUCCEEDS IN OBTAINING A MINIMUM OF CONCESSIONS FROM EACH SIDE, IT WOULD BE THE PRESIDENT'S GREATEST DIPLOMATIC VICTORY SINCE HE ASSUMED THE PRESIDENCY". ITEM
DUMAS

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